1      1.    A method of displaying information on a processor-
2    based system comprising:
3          detecting the orientation of a display coupled to
4    said system; and
5          changing a characteristic of the information
6    displayed on said display in response to the detected
7    orientation of the display.

1      2.    The method of claim 1 further including detecting
2    the angle of the display with respect to the rest of the
3    processor-based system and changing the aspect ratio of
4    characters displayed on the display in response to the
5    detected orientation of the display.

1      3.    The method of claim 1 wherein changing a
2    characteristic includes changing the orientation of
3    information displayed on said display.

1      4.    The method of claim 3 including rotating the
2    information displayed on the display approximately 90° in
3    response to a displacement of said display of approximately
4    90°.

1      5.    The method of claim 3 including rotating the
2    information displayed on said display by a approximately

3    180° in response to a displacement of said display of

4    approximately 180°.

1        6.   The method of claim 1 wherein changing a

2    characteristic includes automatically changing said

3    characteristic in response to the detection of the

4    orientation of said display.

1        7.   The method of claim 1 wherein changing a

2    characteristic includes selecting a program for operation

3    based on the orientation of the display.

1        8.   The method of claim 1 wherein changing a

2    characteristic includes utilizing display orientation as a

3    software input command.

1        9.   An article comprising a medium for storing

2    instructions that cause a processor-based system to:

3        detect the orientation of a display coupled to

4    said system; and

5        change a characteristic of the information

6    displayed on the display in response to the detected

7    orientation of the display.

1        10.  The article of claim 9 further storing

2    instructions that cause a processor-based system to detect

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3     the angle of the display with respect to the rest of the

4     processor-based system and change the aspect ratio of

5     letters displayed on the display in response to detected

6     orientation of the display.

1        11.   The article of claim 9 further storing

2     instructions that cause a processor-based system to change

3     the orientation of information displayed on the display.

1        12.   The article of claim 11 further storing

2     instructions that cause a processor-based system to rotate

3     the information displayed on the display by approximately

4     90° in response to a displacement of the display of

5     approximately 90°.

1        13.   The article of claim 11 further storing

2     instructions that cause a processor-based system to rotate

3     the information displayed on the display by approximately

4     180° in response to a displacement of the display of

5     approximately 180°.

1        14.   The article of claim 9 further storing

2     instructions that cause a processor-based system to

3     automatically change a characteristic in response to the

4     detection of the orientation of the display.

1    15.   The article of claim 9 further storing
2  instructions that cause a processor-based system to select
3  a program for operation based on the orientation of the
4  display.


1    16.   The article of claim 9 further storing
2  instructions that cause a processor-based system to use a
3  signal indicative of the orientation of a display as a
4  software input command.


1    17.   A processor-based system comprising:
2          a processor;
3          storage coupled to said processor;
4          a circuit that produces a signal indicative of
5  the orientation of the circuit, said circuit coupled to
6  said processor; and
7          software stored on said storage to cause
8  information to be displayed in different formats depending
9  on the orientation of said circuit.


1    18.   The system of claim 17 wherein said circuit
2  includes an accelerometer.


1    19.   The system of claim 18 wherein said accelerometer
2  senses accelerations in at least two transverse axes.

1       20. The system of claim 19 wherein said accelerometer
2 senses accelerations along at least three transverse axes.

1       21. The system of claim 17 further including a
2 display and a housing including a keyboard, said housing
3 hingedly connected to said display.

1       22. The system of claim 21 wherein said display has a
2 longer and a shorter axis, and said software changes the
3 way information is displayed between a first orientation
4 where information is displayed along the longer axis and a
5 second orientation which information is displayed along the
6 shorter axis.

1       23. The system of claim 22 wherein information is
2 displayed in one of at least two orientations along the
3 longer axis, each orientation inverted with respect the
4 other.

1       24. The system of claim 21 wherein said software
2 changes the aspect ratio of information displayed on said
3 display based on the angle of said display with respect to
4 said housing.